

REMARKS

Remarks concerning the drawings

Formal drawing sheets 1/6 through 6/6 are submitted herewith. No changes of substance have been made to the drawings.

Remarks concerning amendments to specification

No amendments to the specification were made.

Remarks concerning amendments to claims

Claims 1–36 remain in the application. Independent claims 1, 12, and 22 were amended to overcome the rejection under 35 USC 112, second paragraph. Dependent claims 5, 6, 13, 14, 16, 17, 19, 20, 21, 25, 26, 28, 29, 32, 33, 36 were amended to correct minor formal errors and to account for wording changes in the independent claims.

Response to rejections

In the most recent Action claims 1–36 were rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph. The Applicant is amending independent claims 1, 12, and 22 in accordance with the Examiner's welcome suggestions. The amendments conform to the substance of the suggestions, and represent a good faith attempt to overcome the rejection. The Applicant views the amended claims as significantly more clear, and not altering the scope of the claimed invention.

The Applicant has carefully reviewed all dependent claims to ensure that they are consistent with the changes made to the independent claims. The Applicant has also take this opportunity to correct certain minor formal matters in the dependent claims. The Applicant is also submitting formal drawing figures with this response.

Applicant submits the amended application as completely overcoming all stated rejections and objections of the Office. The claims are currently directed toward subject matter indicated by the Examiner to be allowable over the prior art of record.

Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

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